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28 January 1985

OLL 85-0120/2

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing for House Foreign Affairs Committee,  
Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East on  
the Middle East and Persian Gulf

1. On 28 January 1985 at 1400 hours in room 2200,  
Rayburn House Office Building, the Subcommittee on Europe  
and the Middle East, House Foreign Affairs Committee (HFAC),  
was briefed on the Middle East and Persian Gulf. Security  
was present and a transcript was taken. The briefing was at  
the Top Secret codeword level.

2. Present from the Subcommittee were:

Lee H. Hamilton (D., IN), Chairman  
Mel Levine (D., CA)  
Ed Zschau (R., CA)

Present from the full Committee were:

Buddy MacKay (D., FL)  
Michael DeWine (R., OH)  
Connie Mack (R., FL)  
Dan Burton (R., IN)  
John McCain (R., AZ)  
Christopher Smith (R., NJ)

3. Present from the Committee staff were:

Michael Van Dusen, Subcommittee Staff Director  
Christopher Kojm  
Kenneth Moss  
George Berdes  
Everett Bierman, Minority Staff Director, full committee  
Richard Garron

4. Present from CIA were:

Director, Office of Near Eastern and  
South Asian Analysis/DI  
Deputy Chief, Liaison Division, OLL  
Liaison Officer, Liaison Division, OLL

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25X1 5. [ ] opened the briefing by giving his prepared text (copy attached) highlighting several key problem areas that he expected to be focusing on during 1985. Mr. Hamilton opened the question period by noting that a number of new members of the full Committee were present and that--although subcommittee assignments had not yet been made--they would be welcome to participate in the questioning. He led off by asking a number of questions about the Arab-Israeli military balance. It was obvious that he had read the most recent Estimate on that topic closely, and [ ] comments were fully consistent with the key judgments of the Estimate. Mr. Hamilton particularly wanted to explore the various combinations of

25X1 [ ] agreed to provide  
25X1 this information for the record. [ ]  
25X1 [ ]

25X1 7. The only follow on is the response to be provided in the record regarding our assumptions on possible levels of Soviet military aid to various Arab states. [ ]

25X1 8. Mr. Van Dusen subsequently informed me that Chairman Hamilton was extremely pleased with the briefing and believed that the Agency's substantive briefings before his HFAC Subcommittee had contributed significantly to educating the Members and ensuring that future debates in Congress on the Middle East would have a more solid substantive base [ ]

[ ]  
Liaison Division  
Office of Legislative Liaison

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